

Message Text

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NICOSIA MOSCOW ADANA ISTANBUL IZMIR DTD 14 JAN.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 0325

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU, HU

SUBJ: VISIT OF HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

1. HUNGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FRIGYES PUJA DEPARTS
ISTANBUL JANUARY 14 TO RETURN TO BUDAPEST AFTER COMPLETING
A FIVE-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO TURKEY. THIS IS THE FIRST
SUCH HIGH-LEVEL VISIT TO TURKEY BY A HUNGARIAN OFFICIAL IN
SEVERAL YEARS. (IN 1976 MFA SEC GEN ELEKDAG VISITED BUDAPEST
IN PREPARATION FOR PUJA'S VISIT TO TURKEY.)

2. SELCUK TARLAN, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MFA EASTERN
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DEPARTMENT, WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE BILATERAL MEETINGS
IN ANKARA, DESCRIBED PUJA'S VISIT AS A SUCCESSFUL BEGINNING.
HE SAID THAT NOTHING PROFOUND HAD BEEN ACCOMPLISHED, BUT
THE VISIT HAD DISPELLED MISUNDERSTANDINGS ON BOTH SIDES.
THE NEGOTIATIONS HAD RESULTED IN A FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR
A FUTURE ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL COOPERATION.

3. PUJA'S VISIT WAS WELL AND POSITIVELY REPORTED IN THE TURKISH PRESS. HIS ARRIVAL WAS PRECEDED BY FEATURE ARTICLES ON HUNGARY AND AN INTERVIEW WITH PUJA CONCERNING POTENTIAL FOR TURKISH-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS.

4. COMMENT: TURKISH-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS HAVE BEEN VIRTUALLY NON-EXISTENT UNTIL LAST YEAR. AS A RESULT OF THE PUJA VISIT, THOSE RELATIONS SHOULD IMPROVE AND EXPAND SOMEWHAT. TURKS ESPECIALLY HOPE THAT THERE WILL BE INCREASED ECONOMIC INTERCHANGE WITH HUNGARY. TURKS ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN IMPROVING RELATIONS AS A PART OF THE GENERAL POLICY OF EXPANDING TIES WITH EUROPEAN COMMUNIST COUNTRIES. NEVERHELESS, OF THOSE COUNTRIES, HUNGARY IS NOT A PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT ONE FROM THE TURKISH PERSPECTIVE AND TURKISH-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS WILL PROBABLY DEVELOP SLOWLY.
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